

Washington Preservation Initiative
Advisory Group Minutes
Feb. 6, 2004, University of Washington

Present: Gary Menges, UW Libraries, Chair
Gudrun Aurand, WSU (by phone)
Eric Palo, Renton Technical College
Kathryn Hamilton Wang, WSL
Lee Dirks, Microsoft (by phone)
Susan Barrett (WSL Project Manager)

Absent: Linda Pierce, Gonzaga University
Jill Bourne, Seattle Public Library

Preservation Needs Survey

The group discussed a new draft of the survey provided by OCLC, and considered at their suggestion deleting some questions to keep the survey length more manageable. After discussion, several questions were deleted, and the survey was considered ready.

Checking and blending of the electronic address lists from WSL and from the Washington portion of the American Library Directory will be the next task, along with preparation and transmission of an introductory letter from State Librarian Jan Walsh which will be mailed with the survey. An OCLC mailing by Feb. 19th is anticipated.

Workshops

For March 15 and 17, the Lee Price/CCAHA contract for "Fundraising for Preservation and Conservation" is in the mail to Philadelphia. When it returns, registration will be opened. In the meantime, Gary may do a "save these dates" announcement to the PreserveNW list; then, Gary will announce again to PreserveNW and ACRL; Eric will send to LMDC and Kathryn to SLA, PNLA, and wlaist and others that seem appropriate.

The April dates for the three-day BALBOA workshops are April 20, 21, 22, with specific arrangements still in process. This will be oriented more toward museums than to libraries.

For the May workshops on Photography Preservation, three proposals in response to our Informal Solicitation were evaluated by the group. The one selected was from Gary E. Albright, formerly of NEDCC and the Photography Conservation program of the George Eastman House, Rochester, NY. Susan will contact him about potential dates, and will begin writing the contract.

The June half-day workshop, "Saving Family Treasures", by Sheryl Davis of UC Riverside, will be in early June. Susan will contact Ms. Davis to discuss preferred dates, and will start work on her contract. The Seattle location will hopefully be at the new downtown SPL. The group suggested that a public library location be found for the Spokane site, since the information will be directed toward the needs of a public library audience.

The August hands-on Book Repair Workshop, to be offered by Solinet, has had some hurdles in arranging itself as a WLA/PNLA pre-conference, since we prefer not to charge attendees. Susan will talk to Solinet about the budget, perhaps with an eye to instead offering two workshops, in the Puget Sound and Tri-Cities areas, instead of one in Wenatchee, so that more staff could attend. The question of how can attendance be maximized, within budget guidelines, will be considered further.

Also, Lois Olcott Price, architectural drawing conservator, will be at the UW in late June doing an assessment, and has been approached to see if she would be willing to stay for an extra day and do a workshop for us. We would probably issue a special invitation to architecture and engineering firms in the area to see if they would wish to send someone to attend. This would be offered only in Seattle.

The group then speculated about subjects for possible future workshops, including: photo negatives, microfilm, scrapbooks, sound recordings, mold. Responses to the survey may also indicate topics of interest. From the 2004 funding, perhaps \$20,000 will be available for workshops. One or two of the spring ones can be funded with remaining 2003 monies.

Grant Cycle

Jeff Martin, the WSL Grants Administrator, may attend our next meeting, to discuss past and future grant applications. Comments Gary had received included one about the current application being now oriented toward services, rather than collections. The initial questions of how many databases, etc, were questioned as to relevance. Due to extraordinary circumstances while preparing for the 2003 grant cycle, such questions were carried forward from past cycles, and are likely to be much streamlined for the 2004 round. Other questions areas—giving points for collaboration, and having the first question deal with desired outcome, rather than have the questions work up to that point. The Advisory Group will discuss the application form in more detail at the next meeting.

Someone suggested that a portion of the grant money could be set aside for smaller, perhaps \$5,000 grants, specifically for libraries to fund a preservation assessment of their collections. Then there would also be a more-major grants category. It was also mentioned that it should be more specifically stipulated that indirect costs were not to be included.

Other

Susan mentioned the preservation video given by Tom Clareson; she will explore the question of public performance rights for that video.

Next meeting—Friday, March 5, 10 am, UW